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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 AID-05 SAM-01 SAB-01 OMB-01

EUR-12 SAJ-01 SSO-00 /096 W
---------- 026920
P R 241418Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5367
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E O 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IS EG, XF
SUBJECT: RABIN COMMENTS ON RECENT SADAT STATEMENTS

1. SUMMARY: IN JAN 23 SPEECH TO VISITING UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL GROUP, PM RABIN ADDRESSED HIMSELF TO VARIETY OF RECENT STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT SADAT. PRESS REPORTS THAT AT OUTSET RABIN QUOTED EXTENSIVELY FROM SADAT INTERVIEWS AND SPEECHES OVER PAST MONTH OR SO, INCLUDING JAN 22 LE MONDE INTERVIEW. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL PRESS BULLETIN ACCOUNTS, HOWEVER, ONLY REFERENCE TO LATTER WAS POSITIVE REACTION TO SADAT'S CONTINUED WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE THROUGH GOOD OFFICES OF US. (SEE PARA 5 BELOW.) RABIN COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS ON POINTS RECENTLY ATTRIBUTED TO SADAT: (1) ISRAEL REJECTS ESTAB-LISHMENT OF DEADLINES FOR NEGOTIATIONS: (2) ISRAEL ALSO REJECTS EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH NEGOTIATING LINKAGE AMONG THREE FRONTS: (3) GOI PREFERS TO VIEW GENEVA AS FRAMEWORK FOR BILATERAL TALKS: AND (4) ISRAELIS ARE WELL AWARE THAT SITUATION
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IN MID EAST IS EXPLOSIVE. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF

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TEXT FROM GOI PRESS BULLETIN. END SUMMARY.

2. BEGIN TEXT: I CAN'T SAY THAT WE HAVE SEEN ANY SIGN
OF READINES BY SYRIA TO MAKE PEACE WITH ISRAEL. WE KNOW
THAT LEBANON IS TOO WEAK EVEN TO CONTROL WHAT IS GOING
ON WITHIN ITS OWN BOUNDARIES. UNFORTUNATELY, JORDAN DECIDED
AFTER THE RABAT ARAB SUMMIT CONF TO PUT ITSELF OUT
OF THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE WITH ISRAEL. AND, ALLOW ME
TO SAY, WITH THE SO-CALLED PLO, THE LEADERS OF THE TERRORIST
ORGANIZATIONS, THERE WILL BE NO NEGOTIATIONS WHATSOEVER ON
THE PART OF ISRAEL. THEREFORE, IT SEEMS THAT THE ONLY
OPTION TO MOVE TOWARDS PEACE IS WITH EGYPT... IN RECENT
MONTHS, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY STATEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
OF EGYPT WHICH I SHOULD LIKE TO REFER TO... IT IS BETTER TO
MAKE CLEAR IN SIMPLE TERMS WHAT IS ISRAEL'S POSITION
VIS-A-VIS ALL THESE STATEMENTS-- AND ALLOW ME TO MAKE IT
AS A MILITARY MAN, AS I WAS TRAINED MOST OF MY LIFE TO DO.

3. POINT ONE. ISRAEL IS READY TO ENTER PEACE NEGOTIATIONS
WITH EACH ONE OF OUR NEIBHBORS WITHOUT ANY PRE-CONDITIONS.
SECOND. ISRAEL IS RADY TO CONTINUE THE EFFORTS TO BRING
ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT ON INTERIM POSITIONS, WHICH
WILL BE AN AGREEMENT THAT WILL INCLUDE POLITICAL MEANING AS
WELL AS MILITARY MEANING, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH WOULD BE TO
ADVANCE THE AREA TOWARDS PEACE AND TO PREVENT THE RESUMPTION
OF HOSTILITIES. THE THIRD POINT. ISRAEL REJECTS THE VERY
NOTION OF TALKING ABOUT DEADLINES FOR NEGOTATIONS. ALL THE
TALKS OF A YEAR OF DECISION AND THAT EVERYTHING HAS TO BE
REACHED WITHIN THREE MONTHS HAVE NO VALIDITY WHATSOEVER WHEN
IT COMES TO ISRAEL. ISRAEL IS MORE THAN EAGER TO MOVE TO A
PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS, TOWARDS SETTLEMENT, BUT ISRAEL WILL
NOT BY ANY MEANS ACCEPT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST NOTION OF THE
DICTATION OF DEADLINES. THE FOURTH POINT. ISRAEL HAS NO
FEAR WHATSOEVER OF THE GENEVA CONF. IF THE PRESIDENT
OF EGYPT SAYS THAT UNLESS HE ACHIEVES HIS OWN GOALS HE WILL
ASK FOR THE GENEVA CONF, HE CAN HAVE IT. ISRAEL SUPPORTED
AND SUPPORTS THE GENEVA CONF. ISRAEL CONTINUES TO SUPPORT
THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.

4. BUT ALLOW ME TO SAY THAT THERE ARE TWO BASIC DIFFERENCES
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IN THE MEANING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. ONE CONCEPT, WHICH
ISRAEL SUPPORTS, IS THAT THE GENEVA CONFRENCE IS A FRAME-
WORK WITHIN WHICH BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE CONDUCTED,
IN MANY WAYS, NOT ALWAYS IN A DIRECT WAY--
SOMETIMES THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF A THIRD PARTY: BUT AN
EFFORT IS MADE TO PREPARE THE GROUNDWORK, THE UNDERSTANDING
THAT CAN BE BROUGHT TO A FORMAL MEETING, LIKE THE GENEVA
CONFERENCE, TO BE FINALIZED AND SIGNED THERE. THIS IS WHAT

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ISRAEL BELIEVES IS THE BEST WAY HOW THE GENEVA CONFERENCE
SHOULD BE CONDUCTED...

5. I BELIEVE THAT THE CONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE
WITHOUTTHOROUGH PREPARATION WILL LEAD NOWHERE. I AM GLAD
THAT PRESIDENT SADAT IN HIS INTERVIEW WITH "LE MONDE" ON
THE 22ND OF JAN 1975 MENTIONED THAT HE IS STILL READY TO
CONTINUE TO WORK THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE UNITED
STATES IN THE EFFORTS TO MOVE TOWARDS PEACE BEFORE THE GENEVA
CONFERENCE.

6. THE SECOND CONCEPT OF THE GENEVA CONF IS SUPPORTED
MAINLY BY THE SYRIANS, THE SO-CALLED PLO, THE SOVIET UNION,
IRAQ, ALL THE EXTREMISTS IN THE ARAB WORLD. THEY WANT TO
BRING ALL THE ORIGINAL PARTICIPANTS IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE,
THE REPS OF THE TWO SUPER-POWERS AND THE REP-
RESENTATIVES OF THE UN, AND TO START A PLENARY OPEN SESSION.
THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO BRING ABOUT A STALEMATE IN ALL THE
EFFORTS TO MOVE TOWARDS PEACE. BUT IF THE ARAB WORLD WANTS
IT, ISRAEL WILL GO TO THIS CONF WITH A CLEAR CONSCIENCE,
BECAUSE WE HAVE DONE EVERYTHING TO MOVE IN THE BEST WAYS
AND BETTER WAYS TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT. WE HAVE NOTHING TO
FEAR FROM GENEVA...

7. THE THIRD (SIC) POINT THAT I WANTED TO MENTION IS SADAT'S
STRESS THAT MOVEMENT SHOULD BE ON THREE FRONTS. ALLOW ME TO
SAY, AS I HAVE SAID BY NOW, THAT IF THERE IS ANY HOPE TO
MOVE TOWARDS PEACE, EXPERIENCE OF THE PAST HAS SHOWN US THAT
IT MUST BE DONE ON A BILATERAL BASIS. WE ARE READY TO CONTINUE
THE EFFORTS TO MOVE BY STEPS TOWARDS PEACE WITH EGYPT. WE
ARE READY TO NEGOTIATE PEACE TOMORROW WITH LEBANON, WITH SYRIA,
WITH JORDAN, IF JORDAN WILL FIND ITSELF READY TO NEGOTIATE
PEACE. BUT WE CANNOTACCEPT THAT, WHILE NEGOTIATING PEACE
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WITH EGYPT, OTHER ISSUES WITH OTHER COUNTRIES SHOULD BE INJECTED
INTO THESE NEGOTIATIONS. THE BASIS OF PEACE SHOULD BE ON
THE BASIS OF BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS.

8. SADAT HAS STRESSED THE EXPLOSIVENESS OF THE SITUATION IN
THE AREA. IT IS NOTHING NEW TO US, TO THE ISRAELIS. WE HAVE
LIVED UNDER THE THREAT OF WAR FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF THE
CREATION OF THE COUNTRY. WE HAVE LEARNED NOT TO FEAR ANY
THREATS AND NOT TO HAVE TO FEAR THE FACTS OF LIFE, NOT TO
REDUCE THE STRENGTH OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL, TO REDUCE THE
CONFIDENCE OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES ALL OVER THE WORLD IN ISRAEL,
BUT TO INCREASE IT,TO INCREASE IT THROUGH TELLING THE WHOLE
TRUTH, ALL THE REALITIES, THE UNPLEASANT REALITIES OF OUR LIFE.
THEREFORE, ISRAEL STANDS TODAY MUCH STRONGER MILITARILY, MUCH
MOE CONFIDENT IN ITS CAPABILITY TO PURSUE THE POLICY THAT

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WE WANT TO PURSUE. NO ONE DICTATES WHAT WE WILL DO. WE DO WHAT
WE BELIEVE IT IS MOST BENEFICIAL FOR ISRAEL TO DO. IT IS A
COMBINATION OF A POLICY OF PURSUING PEACE BUT AT THE SAME TIME
MAKEING ISRAEL STRONGER IN EVERY WAY... END TEXT.
VELIOTES

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